

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 508

By Swann

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Kiwanis International upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, Kiwanis International is a long-venerated service organization devoted to serving children throughout the world, with Kiwanis members staging nearly 150,000 service projects, devoting more than six million hours of service, and raising nearly \$100 million every year for communities, families, and club initiatives; and

WHEREAS, among their many worthy contributions, Kiwanis clubs have built all-access playgrounds, restocked libraries, created food pantries, bought medical equipment, hosted diversity fairs, and stuffed backpacks with school supplies; local projects are based on the needs of the community, and the local districts and clubs that see these projects through to fruition are the heart of Kiwanis International; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, Kiwanis International commemorated the milestone of one hundred years of devoted service as one of this nation's premier volunteer organizations; in 2018, the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Kiwanis International marks its centennial year, a hallmark occasion that will be a time for meditating on past achievements, expressing gratitude for the opportunities of the present, and looking hopefully toward the future as the district endeavors in service to all children; and

WHEREAS, in the autumn of 1918, with the presence of Kiwanis in Kentucky and Tennessee a mere two years old, representatives from three Kiwanis clubs in Tennessee met in Nashville to organize what would become the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Kiwanis International; these three clubs spread across the Volunteer State, from Memphis to Nashville to Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, Louisville was the first club to receive its charter, on November 1, 1916, and Nashville soon followed, receiving its charter on February 28, 1917; the Chattanooga club was chartered the following year, on March 9, 1918; and

WHEREAS, early in 1919, the few Kiwanis clubs in the Carolinas were added to those of Tennessee to form the Tennessee-Carolina District; during that same year, Knoxville was chartered on April 5, and Maryville was chartered December 29; and

WHEREAS, at the Chattanooga convention on January 12, 1920, the Carolinas were made a separate district, and Kentucky was invited to join the Tennessee District; the Lexington Club was chartered only four days before this historic convention, and Morristown received its charter eleven days after the convention concluded. The Bristol, Johnson City, and Columbia clubs were chartered on February 12, February 18, and March 20 of that year, respectively, rounding out the first ten clubs of the Kentucky-Tennessee District; and

WHEREAS, during the district's first eleven years, fifty-nine clubs were chartered, with one charter being revoked; the next decade saw the addition of nine clubs, with ten charters being revoked. In 1938, just prior to the January 1 transfer of West Tennessee clubs to the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District, there were fifty-seven clubs in the Kentucky-Tennessee District; and

WHEREAS, forty-eight clubs were chartered in the Kentucky-Tennessee District between 1937 and 1947, with another twenty-eight receiving their charters during the next seven years; therefore, in 1954, the district boasted 127 clubs. Between 1958 and 1962, the district added nine new clubs; and

WHEREAS, today, the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Kiwanis International numbers 147 clubs, with membership totaling approximately 5,000; each of these members demonstrates community leadership as they uphold the worthy tenets of Kiwanis International; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Kiwanis International has been wholly devoted to serving children throughout the region for one hundred years, and the goodwill and

good works of this stalwart organization will undoubtedly continue to uplift the youth of Kentucky and Tennessee for years to come; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend and congratulate the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Kiwanis International upon the occasion of its 100th anniversary, extending our sincere best wishes for much success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.